

Local Food, Farms, and Jobs Act

August 18, 2020



Agenda



Partners
Background
Overview

- Website
- 2019 Annual Report

2020 Annual Report
Q&A



Partners



Arkansas Department of Agriculture

Cynthia Edwards, Deputy Secretary

Sarah Lane, Farm to School and Early Childhood Education Program Coordinator

Karen Reynolds, Agriculture Program Manager

Mark Nelson, Farm to School Innovation Lead AmeriCorps VISTA

UAMS Community Health and Research

Emily English, Program Director

Chris Long, Sr. Director Research and Evaluation

Ralph Wilmoth, REDCap Manager

Mary Bailey, Research Assistant





Background: 2017 & 2018

- The Local Food, Farms, and Jobs Act was enacted in 2017 to create, strengthen, and expand local farm and food economies throughout the state.
- Required all state entities who received more than \$25,000 annually from the state for the purchase of food products to set a goal of procuring 20% local farm and food products.
- Required annual reporting to state Bureau of Legislative Research, Governor, and legislators.



Background: 2019



- Data collection and reporting overseen by Arkansas Department of Agriculture
- Expansion of the definition of “agency”
- Goal increased to “at least 20%” of food budget spent on local food
- Tasks Department of Agriculture to work with distributors to ensure products, list of products, and report of products purchased available for agencies

Overview



The Local Food, Farms, and Jobs Act (Local Food Act) was enacted in 2017 and amended in 2019 to create, strengthen, and expand local farm and food economies throughout the state. The Local Food Act asks agencies to set a goal of at least 20% of the ***agency's** purchases of food products to be spent on local food and it requires agencies to provide information on their ****local food** procurement budget.

***Agency:** Institute of higher education (college, university), child care facility (k-12 school, early childhood education center, juvenile detention center, youth residential treatment facility), state park, after-school program, state agency or other entity of the state, and designees under contract within Arkansas.

****Local Food:** Food products that are grown in Arkansas and/or packaged and processed in Arkansas.



Website



The Local Food, Farms, and Jobs Act

Creating, Strengthening, and Expanding Arkansas's Food and Farm Economies.

The [Local Food, Farms, and Jobs Act \(Local Food Act\)](#) was enacted in 2017 and amended in 2019 to create, strengthen, and expand local farm and food economies throughout the state. The Local Food Act asks agencies to set a goal of at least 20% of the ***agency's** purchases of food products to be spent on local food and it requires agencies to provide information on their ****local food** procurement budget.

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2020 Report

The screening questions and local food procurement report can be [accessed here](#).

Responses must be submitted via the portal by **11:59 PM on October 1, 2020**. The Arkansas Department of Agriculture is tasked with gathering and compiling information from all eligible agencies into a report to the Governor, Arkansas General Assembly, and general public. Agencies that do not complete the screening questions will be reported as "Did Not Respond".

Depending on the information provided in the responses, some agencies will be prompted to complete additional reporting questions about the agency's procurement of local farm or food products and the vendors from whom they purchase those products. You will upload a complete copy of this [Local Food Vendor Spreadsheet](#) as it pertains to your agency's local food purchasing.

On **August 18, 2020 at 2:00 PM CST** we will host a Local Food Act Q&A Webinar. [Register here](#).

If you have any questions, please reach out to LFFJAHelp@arkansas.gov.

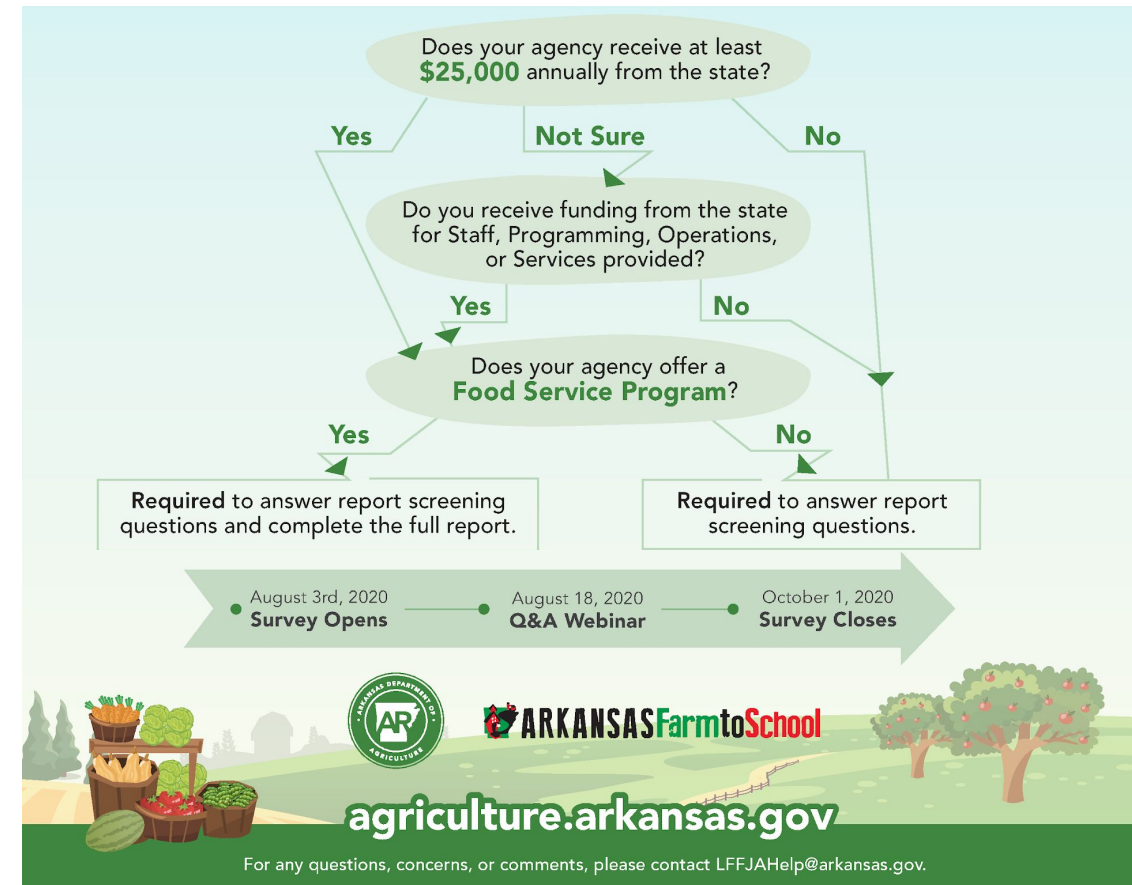


Eligibility Infographic



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Report FAQ



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LOCAL FOOD, FARMS, AND JOBS ACT REPORT

Frequently Asked Questions

Agency: the organization for which you are reporting. As defined by the Act, "agency" can include institutes of higher education, child care facilities (K-12 school, early childhood education, juvenile detention center, youth residential treatment facility), state parks, after-school programs, state agencies or other entities of the state, and designees under contract.

Local food and farm products: products that are grown in Arkansas or packaged and processed in Arkansas, or both.

Food product: a substance, whether in liquid, concentrated, solid, frozen, dried, or dehydrated form, that is sold for ingestion or chewing by humans and is consumed for its taste or nutritional value.

Food service program: refers to the preparation and consumption of food products at an on-site cafeteria and/or regularly serving meals, even if prepared in an off-site kitchen or location. Food service program DOES NOT include catered events, franchises, or privately owned third party vendors that do not serve as the primary provider for the delivery of food products on behalf of an agency.

Food Budget: Food budget includes all dollars spent on any "food product", which means any substance, whether in liquid, concentrated, solid, frozen, dried, or dehydrated form, that is sold for ingestion or chewing by humans and is consumed for its taste or nutritional value.

Definitions Questions

- What do you mean by \$25,000 from the state?
- What if our agency doesn't receive money from the state?
- What if we don't have a food program?
- What information do I need to have prepared in order to complete the report?



2019 Annual Report



- Contact lists obtained from Department of Finance and Administration, Department of Education, and the Department of Human Services
- Survey link created and distributed via REDCap
- Survey released on September 13, 2019; closed on October 15, 2019
- 2019 Annual Report submitted December 31, 2019



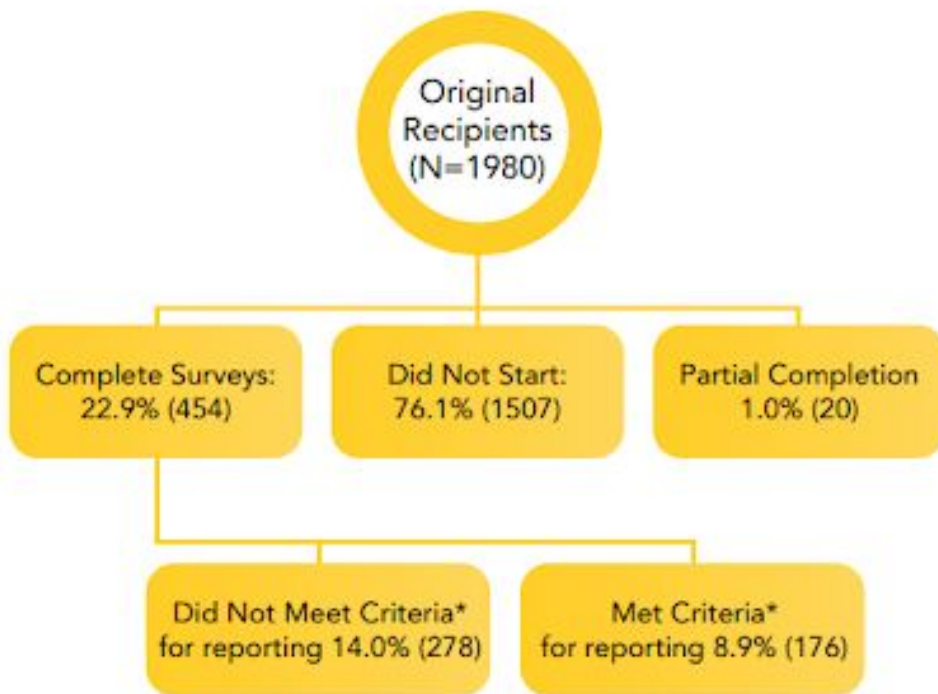
ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE

Local Food, Farms, and Jobs Act
2019 Annual Report





2019 Report Results



Eligibility criteria:

- Agency receives at least \$25,000 annually from the state
- Agency offers a food service program

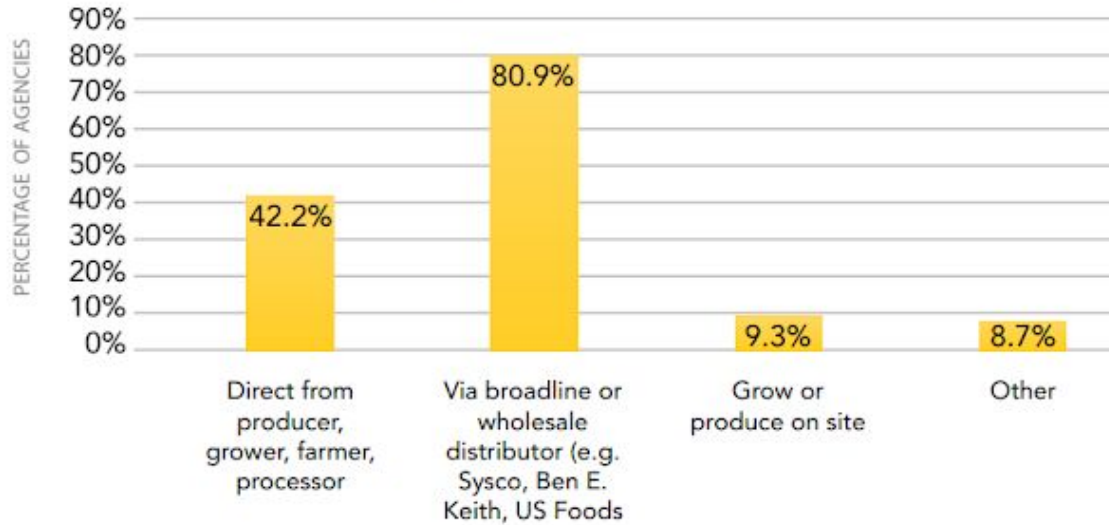
Response Rate: 22.9%

Median percentage of total food budget spent on local products: 15%



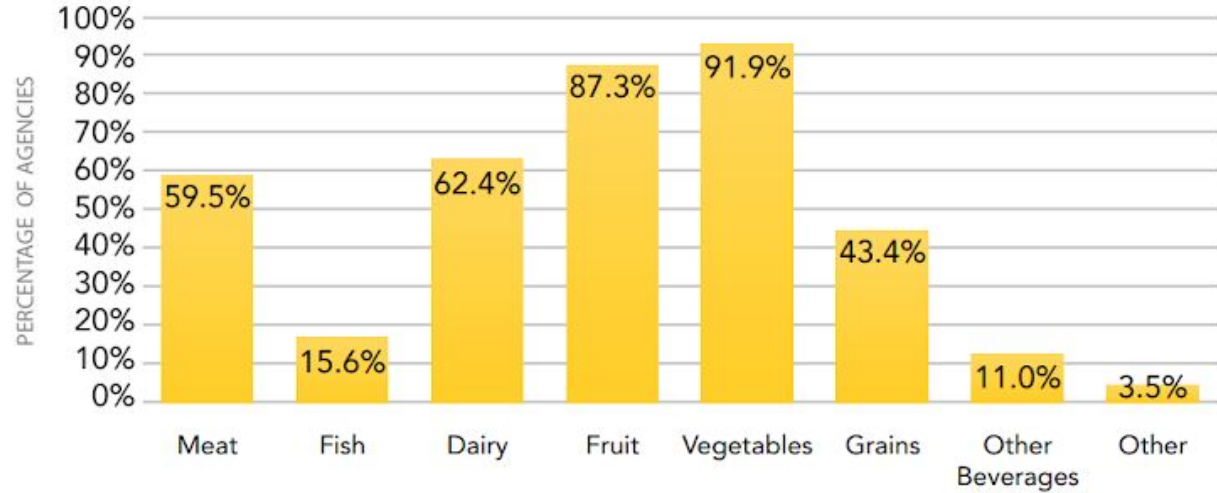
2019 Report Results

STRATEGIES FOR REACHING PROCUREMENT GOALS



PREFERENCE ON HOW TO PURCHASE LOCAL PRODUCTS

PRODUCT CATEGORY MOST INTERESTED IN BUYING



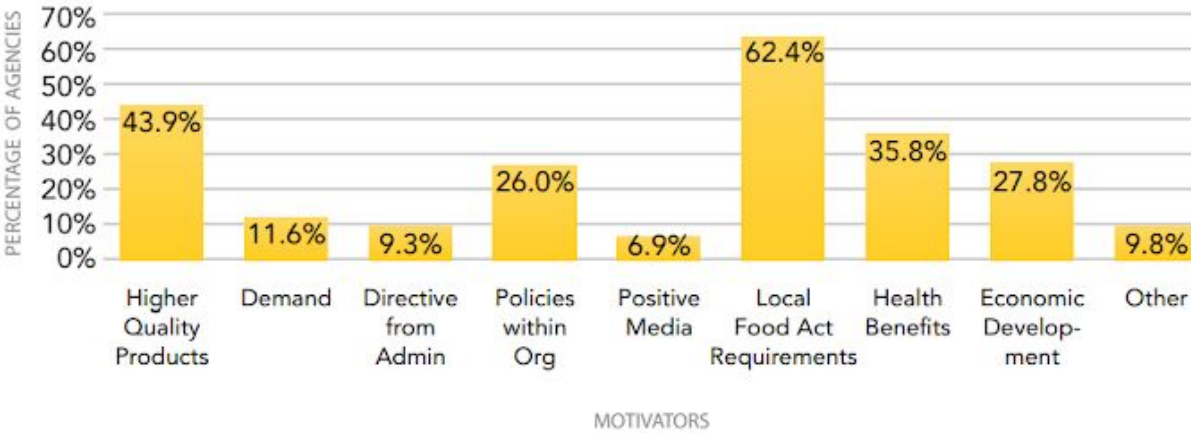
LOCAL FOOD PRODUCT



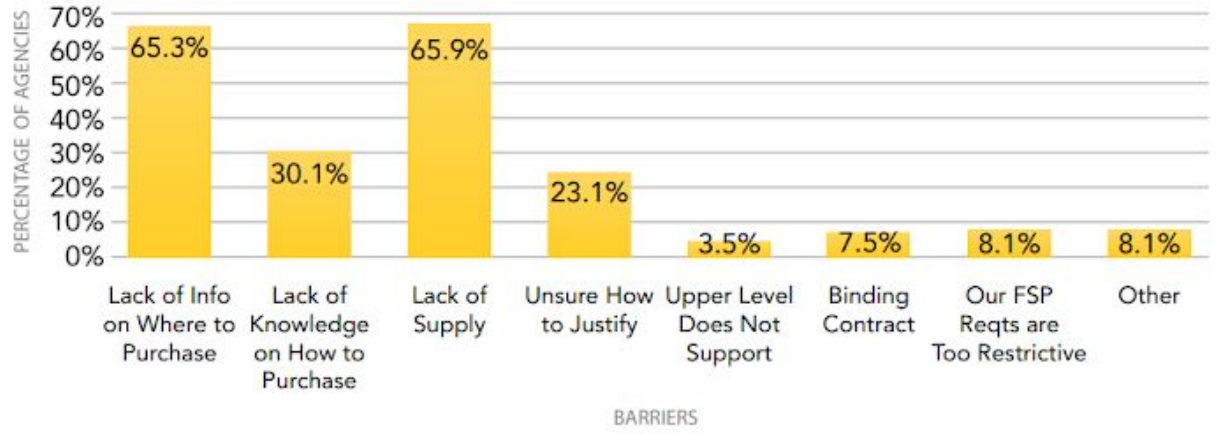


2019 Report Results

MOTIVATORS FOR PURCHASING LOCAL PRODUCTS



BARRIERS FOR PURCHASING LOCAL PRODUCTS



2020 Report



- Contact lists obtained from Department of Finance and Administration, Department of Education, Department of Higher Education, and the Department of Human Services
- Survey opened **August 5, 2020**
- Website landing page
- Q&A Webinar August 18, 2020
- Survey closes **October 1, 2020**
- Completed annual report will be submitted to the Governor and Legislative Committees on **December 31, 2020**





Questions?